



SENATOR BOB DUFF

Norwalk & Darien

Majority Whip

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Energy & Technology
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Appropriations
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April 12, 2007

Commissioner Ralph J. Carpenter
Connecticut Department of Transportation
2800 Berlin Turnpike
Newington, CT 06131-7546

Dear Commissioner Carpenter,

I would like to formally request that the Department of Transportation undertake two projects that will greatly enhance the City of Norwalk at the area around the currently delayed Merritt Parkway interchange.

First, I request that a rock pile near Exit 38 be removed utilizing equipment that is currently in the area for use on the widening of Route 7. This rock pile is an eyesore in a location that is home to a number of large businesses, many of which have asked that the rocks be cleared away. As a growing economic center, we need to put our best foot forward and create a professional and attractive image.

Second, Phase 1 of the interchange project includes the realigning of Creeping Hemlock Drive and Glover Avenue and the widening of the Glover Avenue Bridge. While the interchange project is currently on hold, this particular phase is not subject to the objections raised by the Merritt Parkway Conservancy and is not subject to any pending legal action. Realigning the streets and increasing the bridge capacity are crucial to easing congestion to business areas of Glover Avenue. Further, renovations to the bridge will greatly improve the safety of the bridge's rail crossing, a necessity to avoid any public safety issues. Inaccessibility and potentially dangerous conditions in this area of Norwalk will ultimately lead to decreased economic viability.

I appreciate your consideration and action on these projects, and I look forward to working with you and the department on these and other matters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob", with a vertical red line to its right.

Bob Duff
Connecticut Senate